



MARVEL
LIMITED
SERIES
3 OF 5

REED
WEEKS
GAUDIANO

THE OFFICES OF THE NATIONAL PULSE.

Shocking news as S.H.I.E.L.D. confirms what eyewitnesses had been reporting to the National Pulse all day—

Cobalt Man, one of the villains involved in the Stamford disaster that brought about the Superhuman Civil War, was found alive and well in Manhatt--

THIS IS INSANE.

WHO THE HELL CARES?

WHAT'S UP, NATHAN?

DO YOU ACTUALLY CARE ABOUT CAPTAIN MARVEL FIGHTING COBALT MAN, BOB? I MEAN, ACTUALLY **CARE**?

I...
UM...

MY POINT EXACTLY. NOBODY OVER THE AGE OF TWELVE CARES ABOUT SUPER PEOPLE PUNCHING ONE ANOTHER.

NOT WHEN THERE'S SOMETHING BIGGER GOING ON HERE.

WHAT'S THAT?

SINCE WHEN DO PEOPLE WORSHIP SUPER HEROES?

OH, MAN, DAN SAID YOU WERE GOING ON ABOUT THAT CHURCH OF HALA THING.

I'M SORT OF WITH YOU, THOUGH.

I MEAN, WHAT'S WITH ALL OF THESE GUYS COMING BACK FROM THE DEAD?

USED TO BE A GUY DIED, HE STAYED DEAD. NOT SO MUCH ANYMORE, HUH?

I MEAN, DON'T YOU SORT OF WANT TO KNOW WHY? DON'T YOU SORT OF WANT TO ASK GOD...

3: DEEP BACKGROUND

...IS THERE
SOMETHING
YOU'D LIKE TO
TELL ME?

**S.H.I.E.L.D.
HELICARRIER.
NOW.**



Mar-Vell of the Kree — an alien soldier treated as a traitor by his own people — became the hero known on Earth as...

CAPTAIN MARVEL

After a long and storied career, Mar-Vell contracted cancer and died in his bed several years ago.

At least that's how history was supposed to play out...

After an accident in the Negative Zone, a portal in time opened, drawing Captain Marvel from the past — before his death — and depositing him in the present.

Fully aware of his impending death, Mar-Vell went to New York to see if Iron Man could help him find his way home.

What Mar-Vell found instead was the attention of the entire planet — and beyond. A cult calling itself “The Church of Hala”, led by the mysterious Mother Starr, worships Mar-Vell as a messiah returned from the dead. Ms. Marvel asked Mar-Vell to join forces with the Mighty Avengers. And now the Kree have come looking for Mar-Vell, planning to charge him with crimes committed years ago, during the Kree/Skrull war...

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ATTENTION, KREE SOLDIERS! THIS IS
IRON MAN, DIRECTOR OF S.H.I.E.L.D.
YOUR ACTS OF AGGRESSION WILL
NOT BE TOLERATED.

YOU MUST
STAND DOWN
NOW, OR--

**S.H.I.E.L.D. HELICARRIER.
THREE MINUTES AGO.**



MAR-VELL!



UNNNFFF

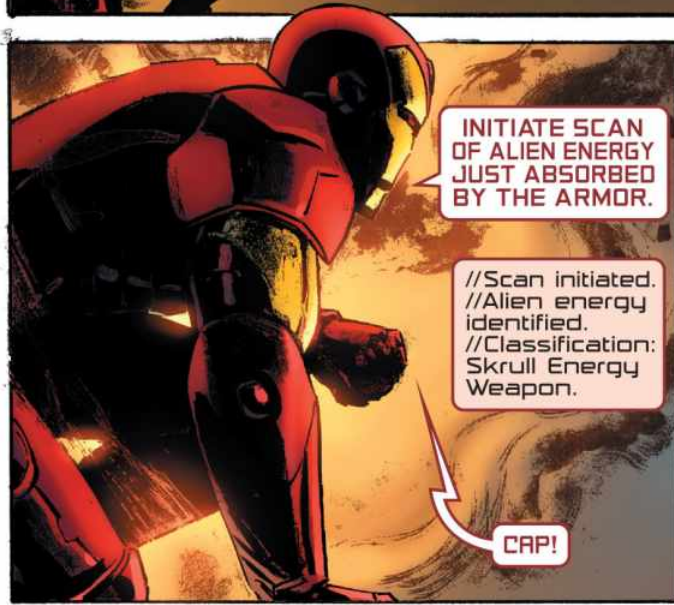
YOU THINK YOU
CAN TAKE ME BY SETTING
A TRAP?!

YOU ARE NOT
WARRIORS!





YOU ARE
COWARDS!



INITIATE SCAN
OF ALIEN ENERGY
JUST ABSORBED
BY THE ARMOR.

//Scan initiated.
//Alien energy
identified.
//Classification:
Skrull Energy
Weapon.

CAP!



THESE ARE NOT
KREE SOLDIERS!

THEY ARE
CLEARL--

KRAZOW!!



UNNNHHH!



WHY DID THE
WEAPON NOT
KILL IT?!

THERE WAS ENOUGH ENERGY
IN THAT BLAST TO FELL
A QWANTZ!

GNNNYAAAH!

IF THE
GUN WILL NOT
WORK, THEN WE
WILL BEAT IT TO
DEATH!





THREE DAYS LATER...

"WHAT DID YOU TELL HIM?"

"THAT'S CLASSIFIED."

"AND WHAT DID HE SAY?"

"THAT'S CLASSIFIED TOO."





NO. I-THERE'S SOMETHING **BIG** AND **SCARY** AND DOWNRIGHT TERRIBLE BREWING AT THE MOMENT.

I APOLOGIZE IF THAT SOUNDS **MELO-DRAMATIC**.

AND IT **DOES**.

THERE ARE... LET'S CALL THEM "OUTSIDE FORCES" AT WORK.



AND I'M BEGINNING TO WONDER IF THEY ARE NOT IN SOME WAY INVOLVED WITH MAR-VELL'S RETURN, HIS AMNESIA--MAYBE EVEN HIS OBSESSION WITH THE PAINTING.

THOSE "OUTSIDE FORCES" ARE THE CLASSIFIED THINGS, YES?

INDEED.



AND YOU'RE THINKING, MAYBE WE'RE LOOKING TOO DIRECTLY AT **MAR-VELL** INSTEAD OF THE WORLD **AROUND** HIM.

EXACTLY.

SO WHERE **SHOULD** WE BE LOOKING?



THERE'S AN ORGANIZATION THAT DIDN'T EXIST BEFORE A FEW WEEKS AGO. AND NOW THEY'VE GOT BRANCHES CROPPING UP ALL OVER THE COUNTRY.

THE CHURCH OF HALA. THEY'RE TREATING MAR-VELL LIKE A **GOD** OR SOMETHING, AREN'T THEY?



INDEED. BUT WHY HIM? HEROES AND VILLAINS BOTH HAVE COME BACK TO THE WORLD AFTER PRETTY PUBLIC DEATHS. WHY PAY SO MUCH ATTENTION TO THIS ONE?



SO I'LL GO INVESTIGATE THE KOOKS AND DO WHAT, EXACTLY?

SEE IF THEY HAVE **GREEN SKIN** AND **UGLY CHINS**.

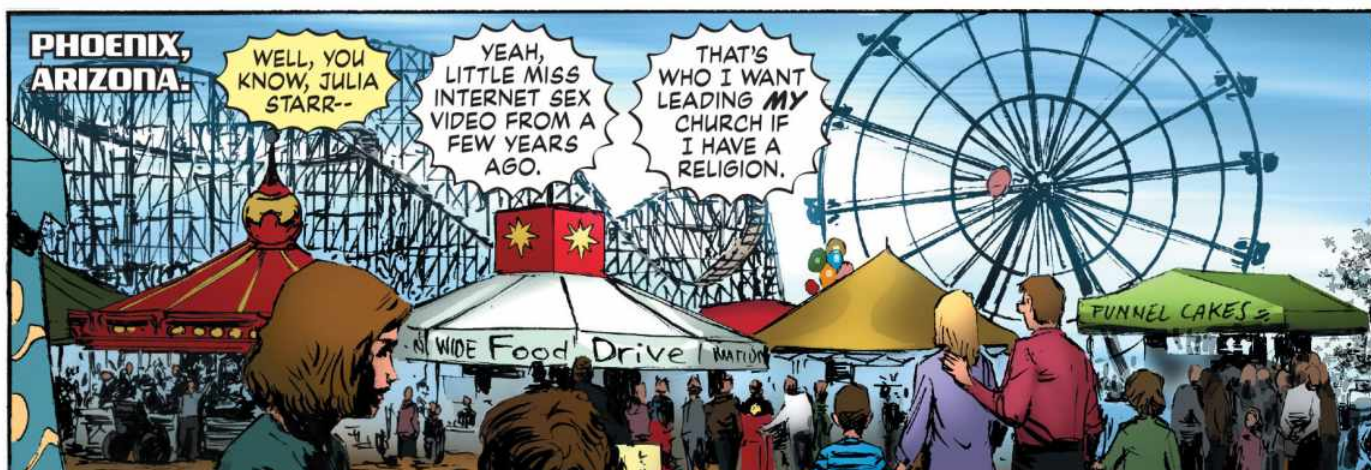
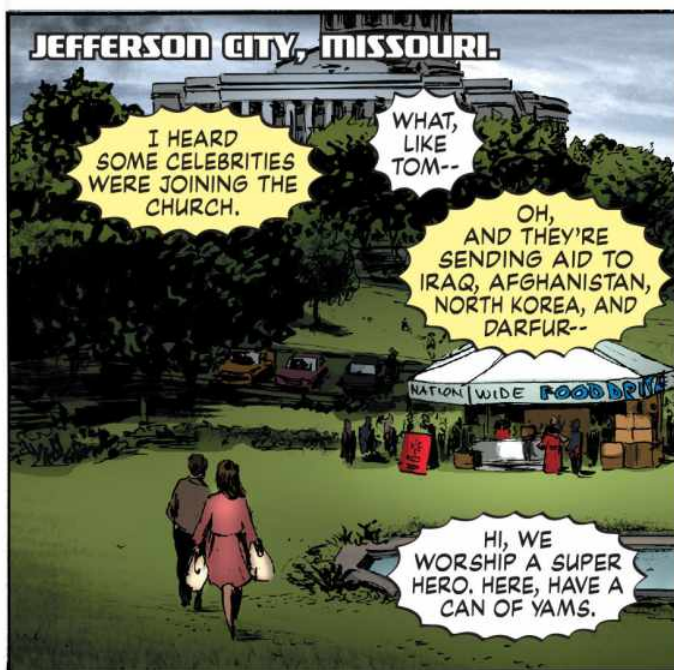


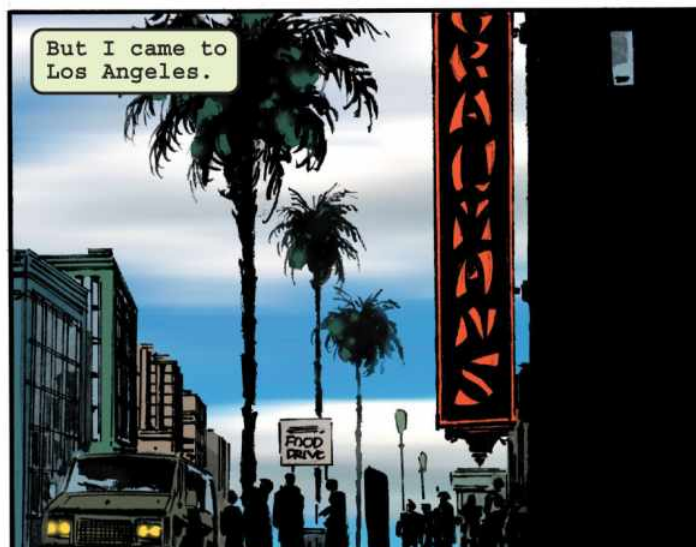
WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?

CLASSIFIED.



UH-HUH.





Now I sit here, on a rented computer, in a crappy coffee shop, trying to figure out why I came to Los Angeles.

COFFEE • TEA
INTERNET
\$5/HOUR

LIBERAL CUP
CAFE



TOTH'S

I can't live with myself if I admit it's because I missed this place.

I tell myself it's because, in my few seconds with Julia Starr's private paperwork, I kept seeing a lot of mentions of Los Angeles.

It has nothing to do with reclaiming my old life. Trying to start something new... although I do wonder what that Church Girl - Heather? - is doing tonight.

No, a lot of money was transferred to accounts on this coast and even though I know it's a thin lead...

SO WHAT DO WE DO?

WE PROCEED AS IF NOTHING OUT OF THE ORDINARY HAS HAPPENED.

I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THAT--

YOU ASKED ME WHAT TO DO!

BUT...

WHAT WOULD YOU DO, THEN?!

Admittedly thin enough that I'm not entirely sure it was worth stealing Mister Smoltz's corporate credit card to get out here...

It's all I've got to work with.

I-I DON'T KNOW! THIS...THIS ISN'T RIGHT. THAT'S ALL I KNOW. BROTHER McNALLY WASN'T--

BROTHER McNALLY IS DEAD.



THE FALL
KILLED HIM, AND THAT
IS ALL ANYONE NEEDS
TO BE TOLD.

I'm sure I'm not the only
one trying to figure out

DAYS PASS, AND
STILL TONY STARK
REFUSES TO SEE ME.

HE MAKES CONSTANT
EXCUSES ABOUT WHITE
HOUSE BRIEFINGS,
AVENGERS EMERGENCIES,
STARK INTERNATIONAL
BUSINESS...ALL OF IT
NONSENSE.

SKRULLS PRETENDING TO BE
KREE TRIED TO KILL US BOTH,
AND STARK REFUSED TO GIVE
ME ANSWERS AS TO WHY.

MY AMNESIA
PERSISTS. BUT I
HAVE ELECTED
TO DO THE ONLY
THING I KNOW
HOW TO DO--

I WILL
FIGHT IT.

I REACH OUT WITH MY
COSMIC AWARENESS,
AND I TOUCH SOME-
THING...A HALF-
MEMORY...BUT IT WILL
NOT RESOLVE.

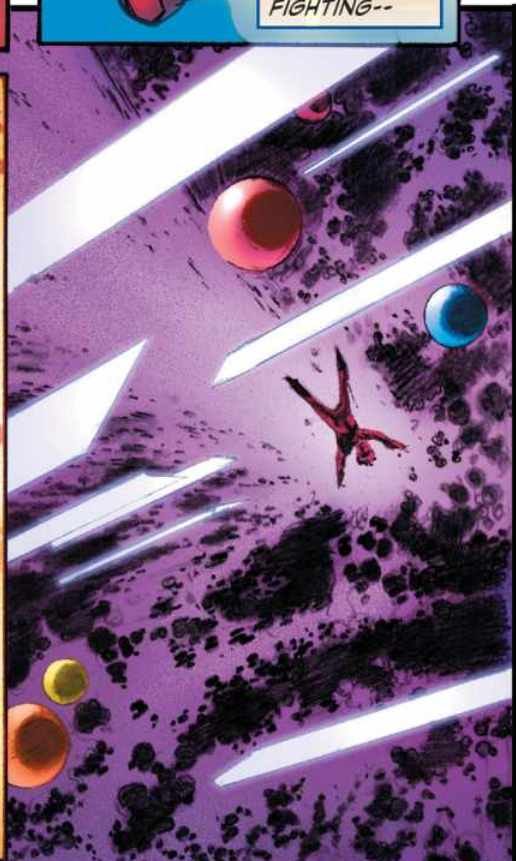
AS MY MIND
THREATENS
TO BUCKLE, I
PUSH HARDER
AND HARDER.
AND SUDDENLY--

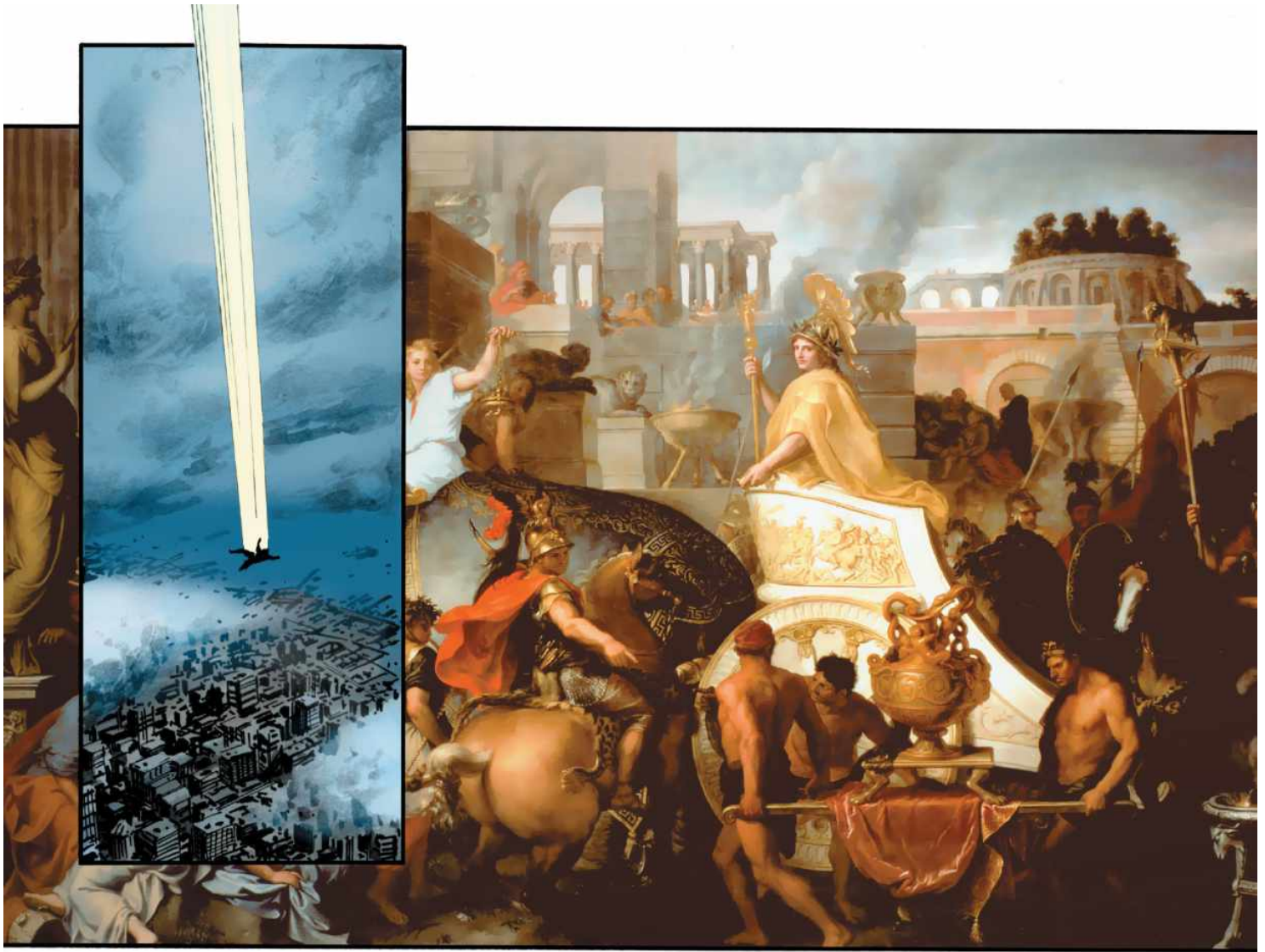
--SOMETHING
BREAKS LOOSE.

WHOLE

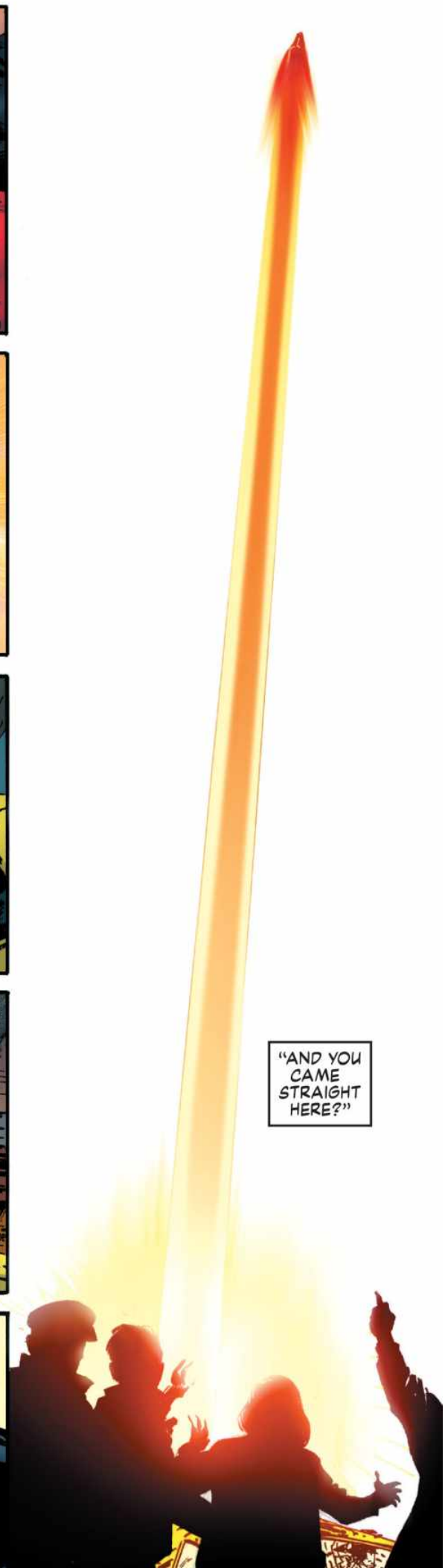
AND

PERFECTLY



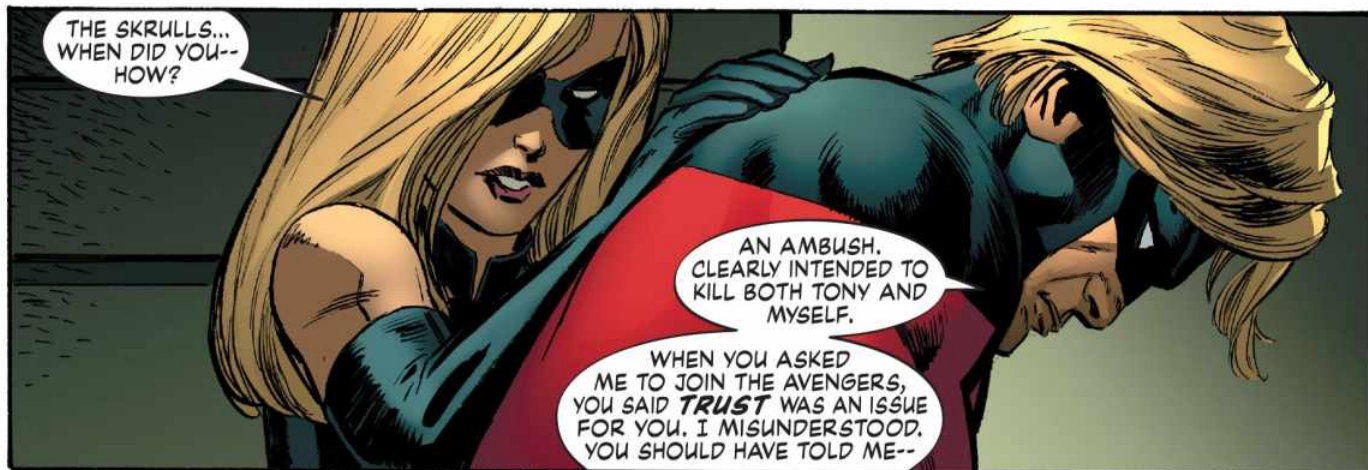






CAMP HAMMOND —
MAIN TRAINING
GROUND FOR THE
FIFTY STATE
INITIATIVE.







I--WELL,
YEAH.

HE SAID
THE SAME THING
AS CYCLONE IN
FRANCE...

WHAT'S
THAT?



HE SAID I WAS MORE
THAN HE EXPECTED. MORE
THAN I USED TO BE.

BUT
UNLIKE COBALT
MAN, ANDRÉ GERARD
DID NOT HAVE THE
CHANCE TO--



ANDRÉ
GERARD? *THAT*
CYCLONE? HE'S
BEEN *DEAD* FOR
YEARS...



SOMETHING
ELSE HE HAS IN
COMMON WITH
COBALT MAN.



I NEVER HAD ANY DEALINGS WITH
EITHER OF THOSE MEN BEFORE.
WHY WOULD THEY CHOOSE TO
ATTACK ME NOW?

UNLESS...

UNLESS...

